

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 064406

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ORIGIN SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 /012 R

DRAFTED BY A/SY/FO:MKDALTON:CWH
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R 211918Z MAR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: AP INQUIRY ABOUT MISSION SECURITY PRECAUTIONS

REF: LA PAZ 1932

PANAMA FOR RSS

1. BELIEVE EMBASSY SHOULD RESTRICT RELEASE OF INFORMATION ABOUT SECURITY PRECAUTIONS TO THOSE MATTERS THAT ARE OBVIOUS OR A MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD. AGREE THAT SPECIFIC INFORMATION OR DETAILS COULD IMPAIR EFFECTIVENESS OF SECURITY AT EMBASSY.
 2. NOTE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SOME ARTICLES AND SEVERAL INQUIRIES IN U.S. PRESS ABOUT SAME MATTERS AND WE ARE NOT SURPRISED THAT THESE LEADS HAVE BEEN SENT TO FIELD IN EFFORT TO FIND EXCITING ARTICLES TO PRINT, BUT AGAIN WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE EFFECT OF RELEASE OF SPECIFIC DETAILS MAY LESSEN OUR EFFECTIVENESS OR ENDANGER SAFETY OF OUR PERSONNEL. THEREFORE, WE ALSO HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO REVEAL DETAILS OF SECURITY COVERAGE AND TECHNIQUES EMPLOYED
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AT SPECIFIC MISSIONS. INGERSOLL

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